

Procedure states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions."

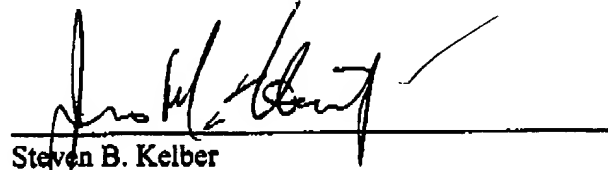
Applicants therefore respectfully request examination of all currently pending claims.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is generic to the species of Figures 1 - 2 and the species of Figures 5 - 7.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any suggestions to place the application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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